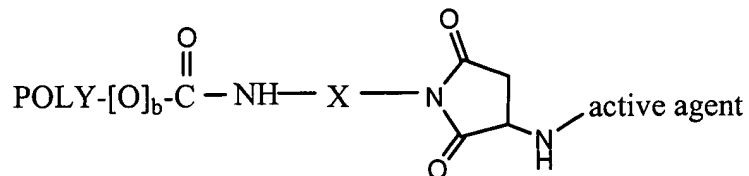


Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 53, line 19, with the following:

Alternatively, a conjugate of the invention may possess the following structure:



~~XV.~~ XVI

In structure ~~XV~~ XVI, "-NH-active agent" represents an active agent or surface comprising an amino group, preferably a biologically active agent, and the other variables are as previously described.

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